



Department of Justice

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Western District of Kentucky

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**MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT SENTENCED TO
2 YEARS AND 6 MONTHS ON DRUG TRAFFICKING & GUN CHARGES**

– Almost \$50,000 worth of ecstasy, hydrocodone, and cocaine

PADUCAH, KY - **Wesley Alexander**, age 24, of Murray, Kentucky, Calloway County, was sentenced to 2 years and 6 months imprisonment for possession with intent to distribute MDMA (ecstasy), hydrocodone (Lortabs) and powder cocaine and for possession of a firearm while being an unlawful user and addicted to cocaine, marijuana and hydrocodone, David L. Huber, United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, and Paul Vido, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Louisville Field Division, jointly announced today. At the time of the offenses, Alexander was a student at Murray State University. Judge Thomas B. Russell, United States District Court, also sentenced Alexander to 3 years of supervised release, following incarceration. There is no parole in the federal judicial system.

Alexander had pled guilty to possession with intent to distribute MDMA (ecstasy), hydrocodone (Lortabs) and powder cocaine and for possession of a firearm while being an unlawful user and addicted to cocaine, marijuana and hydrocodone. On April 28, 2006, Calloway County Sheriff's Office stopped Alexander for operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license. In a search incident to his arrest, officers found 111 grams of powder cocaine, 764 Lortabs, approximately 38 tablets of MDMA (ecstasy), and \$5500 in cash in his vehicle. In a later search of his residence at the time, officers found a Smith and Wesson firearm. The combined street value of the drugs seized is approximately \$49,486.

U.S. Attorney Huber praised the Calloway County Sheriff's Office for "stopping another dealer in illegal drugs. Guns and drugs don't mix well, either on or off campus."

This was a **Project Backfire** prosecution. **Project Backfire** is a partnership of state, local and federal law enforcement to ensure that firearm offenses are prosecuted to the fullest extent of the state and federal law.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Amy M. Sullivan. The Bowling Green Field Office of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) conducted the investigation in partnership with the Calloway County Sheriff's Department, as part of ATF's mandated mission to reduce violent crime and other threats to public safety.

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